

## New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of Developmental Disabilities

COVID-19 Response Date: October 14, 2021

Topic: COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for Support Coordination Agencies

**Effective Date: Immediately** 

## **Support Coordinator Field Visits**

On July 15, 2021, the Division released <u>Support Coordinator Field Visits</u>. This document describes a phased-in return of face-to-face visits by Support Coordinators through the end of calendar year 2021. It also projects that, effective January 1, 2022, all Support Coordinator visits will be face-to-face. As Support Coordinators report to high-risk congregate settings, in addition to family homes, they will be required to be vaccinated or tested once to twice per week for COVID-19.

## **Vaccination Mandate Extended to Support Coordination Agencies**

On August 6, 2021, the Murphy Administration issued <u>Executive Order 252</u>. This order requires that staff and other individuals working in targeted high-risk congregate settings be vaccinated against COVID-19 or submit to testing once or twice weekly. On October 7, 2021, the New Jersey Department of Health issued <u>Executive Directive No. 21-011 – Protocols for COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Reporting for Covered Settings Pursuant to Executive Order Nos. 252, 253, and 264. This provides additional guidance related to Executive Order 252.</u>

Effective November 18, 2021, Support Coordination Agencies are required to be in compliance with the standards outlined in Executive Order 252 and Executive Directive 21-011. Support Coordination Agencies are directed to review each document and take appropriate compliance actions. Please direct any questions to <a href="mailto:sCHelpdesk@dhs.nj.gov">SCHelpdesk@dhs.nj.gov</a>.

## **Post Compliance**

After a Support Coordination Agency has come into compliance with the above, they can relay this to the individuals they serve and settings they work in. Specifically, that by November 18, 2021 all Support Coordinators employed by the agency were required to submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination to their employer or begin submitting to testing once to twice each week and provide proof of result to their employer. Support Coordinators must wear a face covering and physically distance (6 feet apart from others) while conducting a face-to-face visit. The Division recommends that any other parties participating in these visits, including family members, also wear a face covering and physically distance.

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